

**Medical Direction Committee Minutes**  
**Office of EMS**  
**April 20, 2005**  
**10:30 AM**

**Members Present:**

Peter Bruzzo, D.O.  
George Lindbeck, M.D.  
Asher Brand, M.D.  
Bethany Cummings, D.O.  
Dave Garth, M.D.  
Mark Franke, M.D.  
John Rawls, M.D.  
James Dudley, M.D.  
Cheryl Lawson, M.D.  
Stewart Martin, M.D.  
Kimberly Mitchell, M.D.  
Carol Gilbert, M.D.

**Members Absent:**

**Staff:**

Warren Short  
Chad Blosser  
Steve Puckett  
Michael Berg

**Others:**

Scott Weir, M.D.  
Heidi Hooker  
Lisa A. Clapp  
Gregory S. Neiman  
Deborah T. Akers

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
<b>1. WELCOME</b>	Stewart Martin, M.D. called the meeting to order at 10:35 A.M.	
<b>2. INTRODUCTIONS</b>	All of the attendees were asked to please introduce themselves.	
<b>3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b>	The minutes from the January 19, 2005 meeting were approved with the correction of adding Cheryl Lawson, M.D. to the “Members Present”.	<b>Minutes Approved with correction</b>
<b>4. WMD Nerve Agent Protocol</b>	<p>Mr. Steve Harrison from Emergency Preparedness and Response (E,P&amp;R) was on hand to request that the committee establish a template for the pre-hospital administration of medications for the treatment of nerve agents during a WMD event. The committee requested that a copy of the Tidewater EMS (TEMS) Council’s protocol for EMTs administration of medications during a WMD event be considered. It was noted that there should be a statewide protocol due to the overlap of resources and consideration should be given for use at mass events (NASCAR, Boy Scout Jamboree, etc.).</p> <p>It was also noted that a Protocol &amp; Training Module must be identified and approved. TEMS has a web site link that contains the didactic portion for training purposes which can be viewed at <a href="http://tidewaterems.org/moodle/index.php">http://tidewaterems.org/moodle/index.php</a></p>	
<b>5. OMD Focus Group Discussion</b>	James Dudley, M.D. advised that there was an ACEP grant to the Office of EMS for a Survey of OMDs in Virginia. The study will be sent to all emergency room physicians who serve as medical control for EMS agencies. Some of the questions asked are: Why are you an OMD? Why not? Why are you an ACEP member? Why not? There will be an OMD Workshop in Northern Virginia in late June and there will be an ACEP focus group meeting afterwards.	

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<b>6. Removal of Activated Charcoal</b>	Mike Berg advised that there have been concerns expressed from poison control centers and EMS physicians that activated charcoal should be removed from the regulations as a required medication for ambulances in Virginia. He would like the committee to approve the request to have activated charcoal removed from the regulations as being required on an ambulance.	<b>Motion by George Lindbeck, M.D. to have activated charcoal removed from the regulations as a requirement to be carried on an ambulance and the motion was seconded by Asher Brand, M.D. Motion... passed.</b>
<b>7. ALS Training Funds Update</b>	Chad Blosser gave an ALS Training Funds Status Report update dated April 18, 2005.	
<b>8. Legislative Review</b>	Scott Winston advised the committee that all EMS Councils were now represented on the Governor's EMS Advisory Board. Gary Brown stated that he was very pleased with the legislative outcomes affecting EMS. Mike Berg advised that there was legislation approved requiring localities to define acceptable response time intervals. This is a step forward in the delivering of quality patient care.	
<b>9. PPCR Statistical Data Update</b>	Carolyn Halbert, Biostatistician discussed some EMS benchmarks that are posted on the Office of EMS web site. She stated that the reporting of data is improving. However she noted that EMS providers were reporting "unknown", "not applicable" and "other" much too often which skews the accuracy of the statistics.	
<b>10. OLD BUSINESS</b>		
a.	Based on the pharmacy board regulations it was noted that language in the "Position Paper on Epinephrine Use by Pre-hospital Providers" as follows needs to be deleted. "Advanced life support providers [EMT-E (ST), EMT-I(C), EMT-P] who have been trained in the calculation and measurement of drug dosages may use kits developed and assembled locally, e.g. ampoules of 1:1000 epinephrine, syringes, and associated supplies."	<b>Motion by George Lindbeck, M.D. to delete from the position paper the attached paragraph based on the pharmacy regulations requirements. Motion seconded by Kim Mitchell, M.D. Motion... passed.</b>
b.	Discussion on the capnography position paper followed with the wording "both qualitative and quantitative" being removed from the draft document.	<b>Motion by James Dudley, M.D. to accept document with deletion and the motion was seconded by Mark Frank, M.D. Motion...passed.</b>
c.	Tom Nevetral advised that there are only two existing pilot programs and they deal with the Polyheme studies in Richmond and Norfolk.	
d.	There was a final review of the position paper "Approved Physiologic Fluids for BLS Transport" that was authored by Dave Garth, M.D. After some discussion changes were recommended, ""solutions with additional levels of potassium and/or medications will not be allowed under this protocol" were added.	<b>Motion by George Lindbeck, M.D. to accept the paper with the suggested changes. Motion was seconded by Cheryl Lawson, M.D. Motion...passed.</b>

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<b>11. NEW BUSINESS</b>		
<b>a.</b>	A discussion was held on the National Scope of Practice Draft 2.0 paper that was just released proposing a new certification level EMT-Advanced. This new certification level is similar to the old EMT-Intermediate '85 with no skills taught in cardiology interpretation or cardiology medications. Carol Gilbert, M.D. will write a letter expressing the committees concerns with the National Scope of Practice Draft 2.0 with specific comments about the proposed EMT-Advanced certification level.	<b>Motion by George Lindbeck, M.D. and seconded by James Dudley, M.D. to have a written response to the newest proposal. Motion...passed.</b>
<b>b.</b>	Carol Gilbert, M.D. advised that the job description for the State Medical Director needed to be re-written and she asked for comments and suggestions that should be a part of the job description. Presently the State Medical Director has a "scope of work" instead of a job description. There was a discussion that would allow interested OMDs who were interested in the various projects to manage them. The State Medical Director would oversee the projects and the Medical Director's Plan.	It was also recommended to have the bibliographies of the various OMDs placed on the web site.
<b>c.</b>	There was a copy of the <i>Florida Regional Common EMS Protocols</i> shown to the group with a few copies being distributed, that were of interest to the committee. The cost of the protocol book from the publishers would be between \$20 and \$30 for a similar size. Discussion followed with several questions asked. Is there a consensus from the MDC to begin a similar project in Virginia? Could this project be contracted out? It was decided that the Medical Direction Committee would take the idea back to their respective EMS regional councils for comments.	
<b>d.</b>	<p>Mike Berg advised that he received a call from an EMS agency concerned about the memo that had been distributed by his office in reference to the transport of deceased patients. He advised that EMS agencies should not change their current practices on the transportation of deceased patients. Further information will be sent to agencies clarifying this issue.</p> <p>It was noted that the Accredited Training Sites need training equipment and it was asked by the committee to request that RSAF committee consider these requests for funding as a higher priority.</p> <p>The committee was advised that there will be an ALS-Coordination Meeting in Roanoke on July 15 at 10:00 AM with Gregg Margolis from the NREMT discussing the Computer Based Testing that the NREMT will initiate effective January 2007. The meeting will be held at the Roanoke Higher Education Center located behind the Hotel Roanoke.</p> <p>Warren Short advised the committee that the Professional Development Committee reviewed and endorsed the Division of Education Development's Future Training Plan. He then gave a brief Power point overview of the plan and requested that the committee support the plan. The committee did not demonstrate any dissension for the plan and it was endorsed by the committee.</p>	
<b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b>	None	
<b>Adjournment</b>	<b>NEXT MEETING JULY 20, 2005 at <i>The Place</i> at Innsbruck, Board Room, 10:00 A.M.</b>	